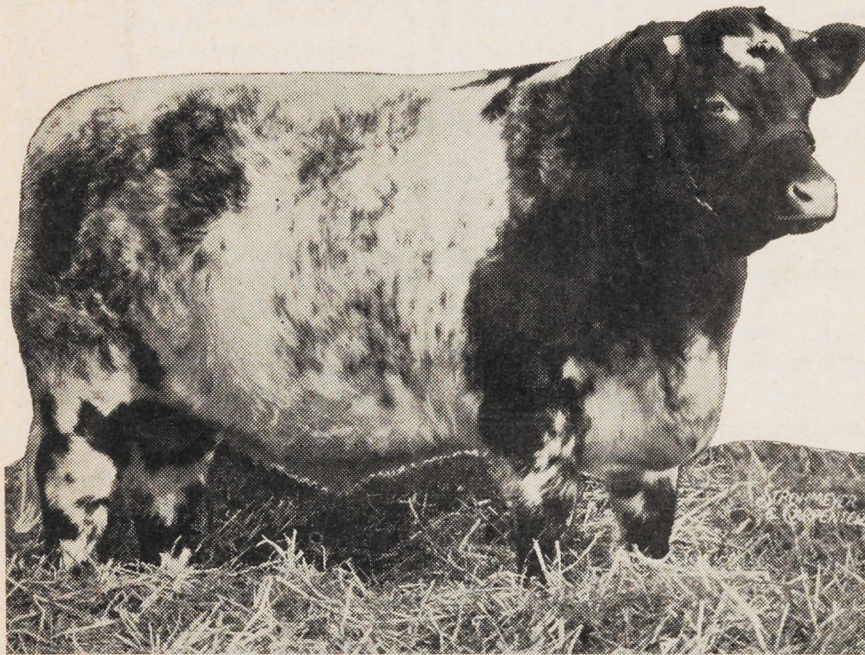


The

ALBERTA STOCKMAN'S GUIDE

Volume 1

Number 2



KILLEARN LORD ROTHES

Grand Champion Steer Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, 1938
(Photo by courtesy Dept. of Animal Husbandry, University of Alberta)

March

1939

Edmonton, Alberta

IN THIS ISSUE:

OUTLINE FOR SPRING SHOW
EDMONTON

THE AGRICULTURAL
SITUATION AND OUTLOOK
FOR 1939

WARBLE FLIES AND THEIR
CONTROL

AT THE INTERNATIONAL SHOW
IN SAN FRANCISCO

CARE OF SOW AND LITTER
AND
VARIOUS ARTICLES AND ITEMS

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL PROGRESSIVE LIVESTOCK FARMERS
IN ALBERTA

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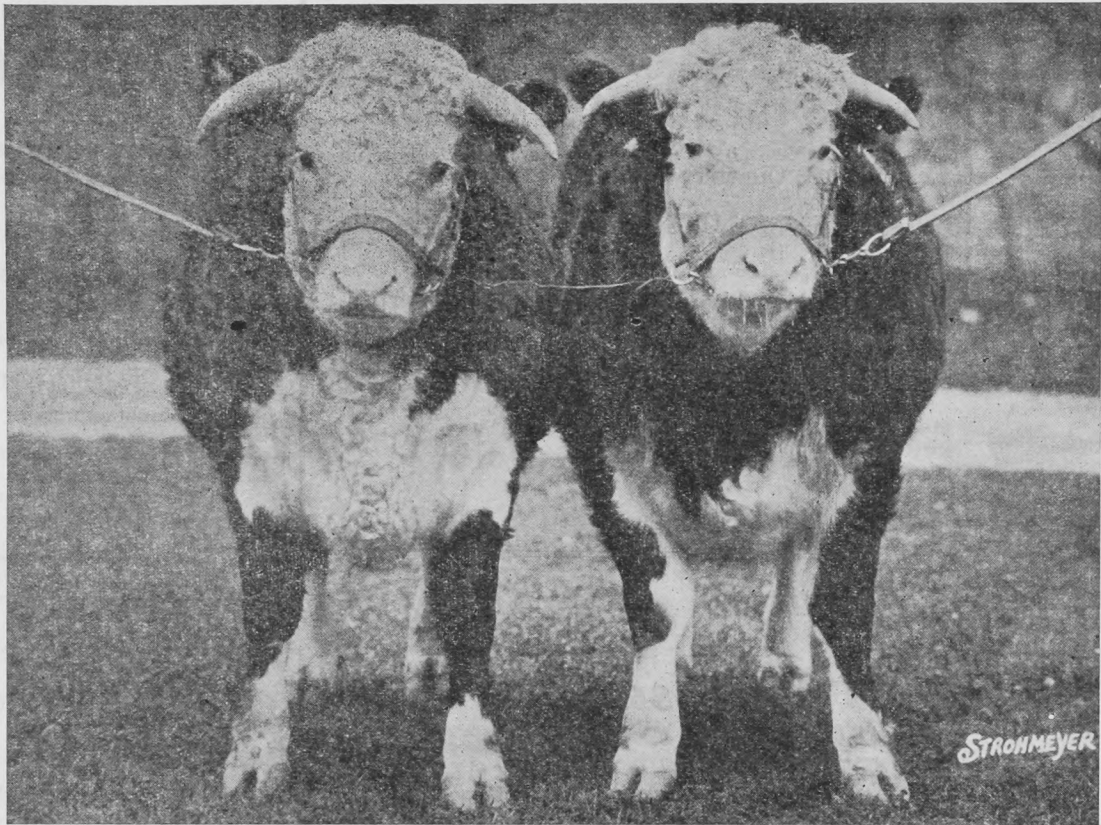
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Care of Pigs at Farrowing Time

(Taken from Bulletin No. 22 prepared by Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Alberta, and distributed by Department of Extension, University of Alberta.)

(By courtesy Extension Department and Department of Animal Husbandry.)

Farrowing time is the critical time in the pig business. Heavy losses are apt to occur here unless care is exercised. It is estimated that 40% of the pigs farrowed are lost each year between farrowing and weaning time. A pig which dies at farrowing time does not represent a heavy loss, but it means one less pig at marketing time.

The following farrowing time precautions are suggested:

(1) Remove the sow from her winter shelter to a suitable farrowing pen at least one week before she is due to farrow, making plenty of provision for exercise at this time. The length of the pregnancy period in the sow is from 112 to 114 days, or 3 months, 3 weeks and 3 days. It generally pays to bring the sow into some pen where she can be supervised at farrowing. The sow which comes out of the straw stack with thirteen pigs is loudly proclaimed, but the sow which comes out alone after farrowing does not get any publicity.

(2) Properly clean and disinfect the farrowing pen before the sow is placed in it, and where warm infestation is suspected in pens that are regularly used for farrowing, it is recommended that the floors be scrubbed with a strong solution of lye in boiling water (1 lb. of lye to 40 gallons of water). This destroys the worm eggs and prevents the little pigs becoming contaminated while in the farrowing pen.

(3) Provide a guard rail around

the side of the farrowing pen. This rail, which may constitute a 2" by 4", or a small pole, should be placed approximately 8 inches from the floor and projecting out six inches from the wall. This guard rail allows the small pigs to seek protection when the sow lies down, and is a wonderful means of avoiding loss by crushing.

(4) Avoid long coarse straw in the farrowing pen. The newly-born pigs may become either tangled or buried in the long straw, and thus more likely to be crushed. Cut straw or chaff makes the most suitable bedding for the farrowing pen.

(5) In connection with winter and early spring farrowing, especially, the sow should be watched carefully at farrowing time so that help can be given in case of weak pigs or an irritable sow. If the small pigs have become chilled they may be reviewed by placing them in a box near the stove, or individual pigs may be wrapped in a warm blanket or immersed up to the neck in warm water. When the sow is irritable or clumsy, it is a good plan to remove each pig as it is born, and return the complete litter for nursing when farrowing has been completed and the sow is resting quietly. At this stage it is also well to remove the small tusks from the pigs as they are liable to irritate the sow's udder. The job can be done with small nippers made for the purpose.

spring of 1923 indicates how milk during the nursing period saves the body weight of the sow. Sows receiving a mixture of oats, barley and shorts slopped with water lost an average of 1.53 lbs. per day in body weight during an eight-week suckling period and weaned pigs weighing 25 pounds, while sows receiving oats, barley and buttermilk only lost .41 lbs. per day and weaned pigs averaging 26 pounds. Weight lost by sows while nursing a litter must be recovered either before they farrow again, or go to market as the case may be, so that feeding to maintain the condition of the sows as well as to stimulate milk flow is a matter of importance.

After the first few days oats, barley and wheat may be used satisfactorily for the nursing sow. We have found the following mixtures satisfactory:

Oats, 1 part; Barley, 1 part. Or
Oats, 1 part; Wheat, 1 part. Or
Oats, 2 parts; Barley, 1 part;
Wheat, 1 part.

Some may prefer to feed a higher proportion of oats than suggested above, but unless they are much cheaper than wheat or barley, the practice would be justified.

When skim-milk or buttermilk are not available, 10 lbs. of tankage to each 100 lbs. of grain is to be recommended; or 5 lbs. of tankage and 5 lbs. of linseed oil meal.

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Feed and Care of Sow and Litter

Beginners are often anxious to feed the sow heavily immediately after farrowing. Nothing is more detrimental to her welfare. She should not be allowed anything but lukewarm water for the first 24 hours after farrowing. Following that, the first feeds given should contain a high percentage of such feeds as bran, shorts, and oats. A bag of bran or shorts on hand at this time can be used to advantage. The feed may be gradually increased and heavier feeds added

until the sow is on full feed in from a week to ten days.

The most satisfactory ration at this time is one that includes either skim-milk or buttermilk. These feeds naturally tend to stimulate milk flow and preserve the body weight of the sow, and in addition, as the young pigs learn to eat from the mother's trough, they make more rapid growth when skim milk forms a part of the ration.

An experiment conducted at the University of Alberta during the

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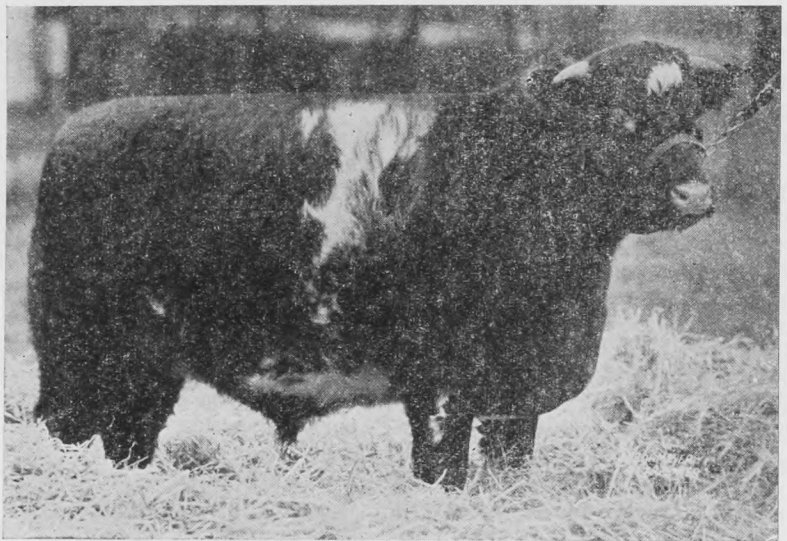
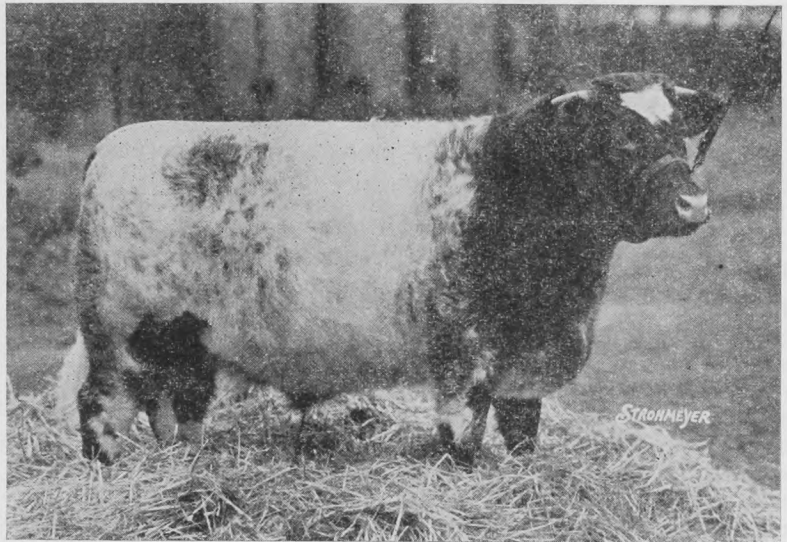
Leveling of Hog Production Urged in Western Canada

At the concluding meeting of an agricultural short course, held in conjunction with the two-day district seed fair in Edmonton in January, F. M. Baker, representative of the Industrial Development Council of the Canadian Meat Packers' Association, spoke on hog marketing.

He stressed the need for leveling out marketing of live hogs. Regarding prospects for 1939 hog markets he predicted a big increase in the fall in Canadian hog marketings. Low feed costs would boost profits, though the price of bacon on the British market might be a little lower because of lower feed costs. On the British bacon market the most desired type was Wiltshire "sides" of 55 to 65 lbs. with the leanest finish, he stated. Hogs of 195 to 220 lbs. not over-finished produce such desired sides. He declared farmers were over-fining their hogs, and demonstrated grading of hogs with illustrations.

D. R. D. Sinclair, Dept. of Animal Husbandry, University of Alberta, was another speaker on hog marketing. He gave illustrated descriptions of various types of housing for early winter farrowing. Insulation and ventilation were particularly important for winter work in this country. Danish type of piggery was being used in Alberta and was giving highly satisfactory service. He urged selling when possible at periods of high prices of hogs that would under the normal routine of events would be sold at the low price periods. This would mean planning for ironing out the ups and downs in production.

"Hog producers never may iron right out or level the marketing volume through the year, but they



Starlight U.A. (top), Colonel U.A. (bottom). These two pure-bred Shorthorn steers are full brothers and were grand champion steers at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto—Starlight in 1936, Colonel in 1937. Bred and exhibited by the University of Alberta. A combination of good breeding and proper fitting.

—By Courtesy, Dept. of Animal Husbandry, University of Alberta.

can do much in that direction to their advantage. Such efforts would tend to level out the price, too, but considerable advantage still would remain," he declared.

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The Livestock Situation and Outlook for 1939 in Canada

(Compiled from "The Agricultural Situation and Outlook for 1939," published by Dominion Dept. of Agriculture, by Authority of Hon. James G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture, and Hon. W. D. Euler, Minister of Trade and Commerce.)

THE outlook for income from the sales of live stock on a commodity basis is summarized as follows. As there are more hogs to market in 1939 as a whole, and as there are prospects for a steady home and export demand, the income from hog products should not be less than in 1938, though the average price per hog during 1939 may be somewhat lower. Income from beef cattle should be about the same in 1939 as in 1938, since reduced marketings are expected to be offset by better prices. Returns from sheep and wool in 1939 is expected to be much the same as in 1938. It is considered that the gross income from all dairy products will not be higher than 1938, and because of current prospects for lower butterfat prices, it may be slightly lower in early part of 1939.

Numbers of cattle on farms at January 1, 1939, are expected to show a further reduction from those of the previous year. The present cattle production cycle reached its peak in 1936. Net cattle marketing in 1938 were materially below those of 1936 and 1937. Further declines may be expected during 1939 and 1940. The relative abundance of cheap feed in the Prairie Provinces indicates a volume of grain-fed cattle marketed from that area in the early part of 1939, in excess of the volume of any year since 1935. Any increase in marketings of grain fed cattle in the Prairie Provinces during the early months of 1939 may, however, be offset in part by a reduction in marketing in Eastern Canada, since the movement of feeder cattle to farms in Eastern Canada during the autumn of 1938 was the smallest in four years. Some improvement in price levels during 1939 may be expected owing partly to improvement in domestic industrial conditions, prospective reduction in net marketings of Canadian cattle and the reduced duty on cattle entering the United States. Little increase in the competition between beef and pork products is likely to occur until late in 1939.

In 1939 the output of hogs will be considerably over that of 1938, which was 650,000 head below 1937. There may be an increased marketing in some provinces during the early part of 1939, and a material increase in spring farrowing is expected which will result definitely in an increase in autumn marketing. Western Canada will have most pronounced increase. There should be some increase in hogs for slaughter during the first six months of 1939, a further rise during the following three months, and a substantial increase in last three months. There is some indication that exports of hogs and hog products in 1939, will exceed those of 1938 by a considerable volume. Hog prices are expected to average about the same as in 1938, improved consumer demand and possible export increase tending to offset larger supplies.

Sheep numbers showed a slight increase in Canada last year, though there were slight decreases in some provinces due to unsatisfactory production conditions. Inspected slaughterings last year were somewhat smaller than in the previous year, owing partly to increased holdings of breeding stock, particularly in ranching areas affected by drought in 1937. Though feed prices in fall of 1938 were more favorable than a year previous, the cost of feeder lambs was relatively high, and as a result there were fewer lambs in eastern feedlots at close of 1938. Consequently, offering of finished feedlot lambs will not be heavy in early part of this year, and this should tend to maintain firm price levels. An abundance of suitable feed, tends, if winter conditions stay favorable, to point to a considerable increase in the spring lamb crop. A further expansion of lamb production may be expected in 1940, as ewe lambs were retained in large numbers in fall of 1938, particularly in the west.

Though the number of horses on farms in Canada at June 1, 1938, showed a further reduction, there is evidence that larger foal crops in next few years will

reverse the downward trend. The decrease in numbers occurred chiefly in Saskatchewan, where disease and lack of feed have caused heavy mortality. With the exception of small declines in Alberta and New Brunswick, other provinces recorded increases. A good demand for pure bred stock for breeding purpose was evident in 1938. Increases in number of colts and fillies were indicated in all provinces, Saskatchewan excepted. However, the large foal crop in 1938 was insufficient to offset losses. The outbreak of sleeping sickness last year was particularly severe in western and north-western Manitoba, eastern and central Saskatchewan and central Alberta. In some places farming operations were handicapped by lack of power.

Continued on page 23



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Editorial

THE past three months has seen its full quota of conventions, conferences, and meetings, and the livestock industry has had its full share. While some of the problems discussed are by no means new to live-stock people, circumstances affecting these change rapidly in these quickly moving times, and it must be granted, we believe, that nothing has been lost in having these brought again before us, thoroughly discussed, and solutions proposed. It is not our purpose to go into all these here as those of you who have not been able to attend these meetings have been able to read in the daily papers much of what was discussed, and at other places in this issue you will find material bearing on these.

While we would like to picture to you and to ourselves that the horizon is undimmed by clouds and threats of storms as far as live-stock raising and marketing is concerned we must be practical and face squarely the fact that there are many factors in the world today which must not be ignored by any progressive industry if that industry desires to continue progressing or to even hold its own. In Alberta, however, we believe our province is one of the most progressive and alert in the matter of raising livestock both in regard to quantity and quality, and in regard to quality we can point with a certain amount of pride to the awards won by Alberta at Toronto last November and at San Francisco just recently. Our provincial livestock department is fully aware of the difficulties besetting the industry, and are constantly and actively endeavoring to remove as many as humanly possible. Much of their work however can be rendered useless by a laxity of interest and effort on the part of live-stock people themselves. Not until you bestir yourselves to actively co-operate with these public officials can the fullest benefits be realized, both individually and collectively.

To come back to what was mentioned earlier, namely important factors bearing on the live-stock industry today, there are three, in our opinion, which it would be well to consider carefully. It will be impossible to deal with them at any length, but we will give a brief resume. They are: the Domestic situation; International Trade conditions, and the Financial factor.

In our own country industrial production employment and payrolls were relatively favorable at the end of 1938 and it is reasonable to suppose these conditions will continue in 1939. Still, our present rates of progress would have to be accelerated considerably, to return to 1937 peak levels during this current year. Consumer purchases may be expected to record a slight improvement over 1938. Although the low level of prices of farm products is a factor retarding general economic recovery, some improvement may be expected in 1939 as a result of anticipated increases in demand.

In 1937 the volume of world trade made notable gains, but a reversal in the recovery movement in major nations since that time reduced the volume of trade sharply in 1938. This decline in world movement trade has been accompanied by an accumulation of world stocks of foodstuffs and raw materials. Restrictions on world trade brought about by quotas, exchange control, etc., relaxed somewhat in 1937, were renewed in many cases in 1938. International exchange rates were subjected to considerable strain through 1938 and were decidedly unsettled at end of year. An increase in the number of trade agreements has been a forward step in the lessening of trade restrictions. The new Canada-United States Trade Agreement has provided many valuable concessions for a wide range of Canadian primary products to be exported to the United States. Larger supplies of wheat and other farm products in Canada will most likely result in a greater volume of agricultural exports in 1939.

Though ample funds are available for expansion of industrial activity, to date there has been little inclination to increase borrowings in anticipation of improving business prospects. There has been some increase in current loans by chartered banks during the past 30 months, but the total remains comparatively low. Undoubtedly this is due in part to industry financing a growing proportion of its needs from reserves, but it also shows a reticence, particularly on the part of smaller concerns, to borrow extensively in view of current prospects for future business returns.

Warble Flies and Their Control in Canada

(Condensed from Bulletin prepared by Eric Hearle, assistant entomologist, of the Entomological Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.)

THE Northern Cattle Grub or Large Warble Fly is slightly larger than the common heel fly, but is just about as widely distributed in Canada, and almost as common. The adults are on the wing from early June until August, and are particularly annoying during July. The egg-laying activity is mostly restricted to bright sunny days, and are seldom laid on an animal that is laying down, but usually are laid fairly high up on the legs. The eggs take from four to seven days to hatch, and as soon as the larva emerges it burrows into the skin. Following the burrowing, swellings appear on the animal, but these are not as severe as those caused by heel fly, and only appear on older cattle. We know little of the movements within the body, but apparently the large Warble fly grub does not select the gullet region as a resting place for its second stage. The migration to the back starts one or two weeks later than in the case of the common heel fly, and the first grub usually reaches the back in February, or March, the period over which the grubs move extends into June, and in some years longer. The average length of time occupied by the grubs under the back is 72 days. The average length of the pupal period is one month. Egg-laying commences in June and may continue until August.

It is quite evident that even those well acquainted with the live stock industry fail to realize the seriousness and extent of the damage caused by the warble fly. Dr. W. E. Graham, of the Dominion of Canada National Research Bureau, as the result of an extensive survey finds that "at the very minimum 50 per cent. of all Canadian hides taken off in 1930 were damaged by open or healed grub holes, and on that basis Canadian hides were worth \$700,000 less in finished leather that year than if they had been clear." The Ontario Provincial Zoologist states that the total losses in that province to be \$5,000,000 a year. We estimate that losses throughout the Dominion attributable to warble flies

are from \$7,000,000 to \$14,000,000, and in some cases may even exceed the latter figure. These losses are from different causes. Fright and worry to animals cause reduced milk yields, and animals do not gain as they should. Cattle sometimes become unmanageable and injure themselves in attempting to escape from the flies. Hides of course, are badly damaged. Wastage of much valuable meat is necessitated through butchers having to trim off "licked beef" from the best parts of the carcass. Hide injury is naturally the most obvious source of loss.

The complete eradication of warble flies, at least in restricted areas, has been actually demonstrated, and is not merely a theoretical possibility. In Ireland, England, America, Germany and Denmark, demonstrations with large herds have shown that very substantial reduction in warble damage is feasible. In Denmark, after three years operation of compulsory control legislation 29½% was reduced to 2½%, the percentages indicating the proportion of grubby hides existing in that country. Reduction of damage may be effected in a number of ways. Housing of animals during the daytime or provision of darkened sheds or brush shelters will greatly reduce grub infestation, as the cattle are thus protected from the egg-laying activities of the flies, because, when shelters are provided, the cattle make for them the minute the warble flies appear. Access to sloughs and shallow stretches of water afford some protection, since the flies will not molest animals standing in water. Many live stock owners rely on "fly dopes" applications to protect their stock against warble fly trouble, but experimental work has failed to demonstrate the

practical value of such remedies.

Since the warble fly grubs are in an accessible position in the back of cattle for some time at a definite seasonal period, this particular period in the life cycle of

Continued on page 25

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Ayrshire Cattle Favored by Many Breeders in Province

Despite the fact that Scotland is its native habitat, the Ayrshire cow is a free milk-giver, an excellent milker, and a generally good dairy animal rapidly gaining favor in the west.

To the several breeders in the province raising the distinctive tan and white animals the Ayrshire is the ideal "middle course" cow. It is a heavy producer; the milk has high butterfat content and the output in return for amount of feed used is high.

The history of the Ayrshire in Alberta is older than the province itself. Letters now in possession of pioneer farmers from C. P. Marker, Alberta's first dairy commissioner, tells how in 1901 the census of animals in the then North-West Territories included 52 pure-bred Ayrshires. C. W. Peterson, Calgary, editor of the *Farm and Ranch Review*, and the late A. H. Trimble, Red Deer, were raising the breed at the turn of the present century.

In 1907, J. J. Richards and Sons, Red Deer, turned to Ayrshire breeding. They went east and returned with some fine foundation stock secured from Robert Ness, Howick, Quebec—the home of Rowland Ness, De Winton, one of the outstanding Ayrshire men in Canada. The history of the Ayrshires in Alberta interlocks closely with the Ness family. In 1908 R. R. Ness, brother of Rowland, did well with Ayrshires at the Dominion fair in Calgary. Three years later Richards Brothers added to their herd, again using Ness stock, and it was that same season Rowland Ness came to De Winton. It may be significant that Richards Brothers until 1936 never bought a herd sire from any other than the Ness family.

One cow and a calf, two Clyde stallions and five mares provided the live stock section of the Ness possessions when he arrived at De Winton to farm a half section. In 1911, when his brother showed in the west, Rowland bought 32 pure bred animals from him, including three bulls of various ages. Twelve head were sold to the provincial government—later transferred from the Claresholm school to Olds—and the breed

expansion since that time has been steady.

Records of some of the earlier exhibitions tell of animals being successfully shown by J. A. Turner, Turner Siding in 1908; Robert Hunter, Mexville, Ont., in 1908, and R. R. Ness, Howick, Quebec, in the same year. The 1909 records tell of Richards and Trimble herds at Red Deer doing well. In 1911 there were several dairy farmers using Ayrshires extensively, including A. H. Trimble, Red Deer; J. J. Richards, Red Deer; Rowland Ness, De Winton; William Shuttleworth, Delbourne; Laycock and McDonald, Calgary; and T. Crosford, Airdrie.

Today the provincial branch of the Ayrshire organization boasts some 45 producers confining activities to the pure bred Ayrshires. Their herds number from 20 to 75 head. In addition to the pure bred animals there are numerous grade herds throughout the province.

Slightly rough coated and well-furred, the Ayrshire has proved an excellent animal under prairie conditions. It is somewhat smaller than the Holstein but larger than the Jersey. Its production is also about an average between the two mentioned.

A good average Ayrshire, according to summarization of many R.O.P. records, will produce from 8,000 to 11,000 lbs. of high grade milk with a butterfat content ranging at times over four per cent. Men who favor the breed add that the Ayrshire is probably one of the easiest dairy animals known to feed. Many confine its diet to green feed with good results. Others allow the animals to run all winter and receive good returns.

Behind the success story of Ayrshires in Alberta one important fact stands out. The stock is carefully selected, carefully bred and herd bulls steadily improved. Some breeders have paid as high as \$7,000 for a good bull.

Little Tommy turned up at school with a front tooth broken.

"How did you break your tooth, Tommy?" asked his teacher.

"Changing gear on a lollipop, ma'am."

Size of Herd Labor Income

In years of normal price-cost relationships, the larger the size of the farm business the greater are the possibilities of high returns for the operator. As size of herd is one of the important factors in measuring the size of farm business it normally follows that, within certain limits, the larger the herd the greater the possibilities of a higher labor income.

Results of the Dairy Farm Management Study in Ontario initiated by the organized dairymen of the province illustrate this point. This study is being carried on by the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and figures on the first year's work are now available. In a group of 361 farms shipping to whole milk markets, a comparison of labor income was made of farms having 20 or more cows and those having fewer than 20 cows. It was found that the larger herds, with an average of 25.8 cows, had an average labor income of more than six times that of the smaller herds which averaged 12.5 cows per farm. As the average size of herd increased there was also a very definite decrease in the cost of production per 100 pounds of milk.

Continued on page 25

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Veterinary Information

Answers and advice supplied by Dr. S. F. Cairns, Edmonton, Alberta. The questions listed here are sample questions, but in future issues questions may be sent in by any subscriber, but if answer is desired before date of next issue, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope, and information required will be mailed to you.

* * *

Q. When running loose a three-year-old horse in fair shape slobbers and sometimes foams at the mouth. Usually this horse hangs its head. What is wrong?

A. The colt is teething, removing the caps on 1st and 2nd molars usually helps. Put colt on soft feed for awhile.

Q. A sow, 18 months old, continually chews wood, and although owner is trying to fatten her, she does not eat much. She is fed oat and barley chop and milk, but will leave these to eat wood. What should be done for this?

A. The sow requires some mineral that she is not getting in her feed. Give her a tablespoonful of bone meal twice daily, or some of the recommended mineral mixtures.

Q. What causes lump jaw in cattle, and what will cure it?

A. Lump jaw or Actinomyces is caused by a vegetable parasite, the actinomycetes, or ray fungus, and is taken into the mouth on the grass or feed. Potassium Iodide on grain or sodium iodide intravenously is the best treatment. Opening abscesses and draining is recommended.

Q. What causes horses to rub necks, manes, hindquarters and tails vigorously against gates, racks, or any hard object within reach? They have no lice. What should be done?

A. Would suspect mites of some description. Clean and disinfect all stalls, and white-wash inside stable. Consult your veterinarian if condition does not improve.

Capital Turnover Slow on Farms

Farming is similar to any other business in that the same necessary principles may be applied. Farmers, as well as other business men, are dependent on the margin between costs and returns. An important factor affecting that margin is the rate of capital turnover. Farms require a relatively high capital investment, hence it is important to secure a large annual turnover if capital charges are to be met. The first year report on the Ontario Dairy Farm study, as reported by the Economics Division, Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, illustrates this point. The Milk Market group having the most favorable ratio between receipts and investment would require an average of three years for receipts to equal investment. The group with the least favorable ratio would require an average of 5.2 years. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported, for the year, that the annual sales in fruit and vegetable stores were 21.0 times, grocery stores 8.4 times, meat markets 27.4 and gas filling stations 17.0 times their closing inventory values.

This difference between the farm and city business is due to the farmer's dependence on biological processes. Some farmers produce milk, eggs and other products which are sold frequently throughout the year. Where this type of production is possible, it aids in financing and may offset borrowing for part of the year. Many producers, however, depend for part on their income on sales of crops and live stock, some of which require up to three or four years to reach maturity. The annual turnover with such enterprises is slow and creates a heavy demand for capital.

The Ontario Dairy Farm study reveals that the total investment per farm in the Milk Market group having lowest capital is over \$8,000 whereas the average for all retail food stores in Canada was \$5,348. The long time nature and high capital requirements of farming tend to hide the necessity for the efficient use of farm capital. Nevertheless it is important. To illustrate the necessity for careful use of capital by creating

Continued on page 26

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ACCORDING to word received by provincial livestock officials Alberta cattle have succeeded in capturing a large number of awards, and the University of Alberta stock farm and Claude Gallinger of Tofield have done extremely well.

In the shorthorn class, the university farm placed eighth with a junior calf, 10th with a pair of calves and 13th with a summer yearling. The Tofield breeder, in the Shorthorn class, placed 5th with a summer yearling, 12th with a junior yearling, 11th with a get of sire, 9th with a pair of yearlings, and 10th with a pair of female Shorthorn animals.

Mr. Gallinger also won second place with "Lady Rothes" out of 14 entries in its class. His yearling bull "Balmuchy Bud" was placed 10th in its class, and another yearling of his "Killearn Remsden 2nd" was sixth in its division.

Crawford Frost of Nanton was successful in capturing several awards, as follows—eleventh with a two-year-old bull "Donald Stanway," 21st place with a junior yearling bull, 15th with a summer yearling calf, 13th with a junior calf, 29th place with "Donald Stanway 73rd," and 25th place with "Donald Stanway 78th," the last two being young calves. In addition he placed 35th with a junior yearling heifer, a senior calf and a junior calf in the Hereford division. He also placed 33rd with a group of two bulls.

Charles Bull & Sons, of Calgary, took 21st place with a yearling bull, and 35th with a junior calf out of 58 entries. George Calder of Innisfail, placed eighth with a Shorthorn yearling bull, "Silver Mist 80th." W. L. McCallister of Dalroy won 12th place with a senior calf, and 13th place with another senior calf.

Other awards were E. J. C. Boake of Acme, who placed 10th with "Downsview Captain" and fourth with "Downsview Edna." University of Alberta was seventh with "Roan Lady U.A.," ninth with the former herd sire "Balmuchy Hope," seventh with a junior calf "Balmuchy Sultan."

One of the most, if not the most, outstanding awards was that won by the University of Alberta Shorthorn steer "Spotlight." This steer, a 16-month-old animal, bred and raised at the U. of A. stock farm under the supervision of Prof. J. P. Sackville, won the Shorthorn championship and the grand reserve championship. By winning the first it becomes automatically the best shorthorn steer in the show, and the second award means it is the second best steer of any breed in the show.

In the Aberdeen Angus class of over 1,150 pounds, U. of A. with "Gilbert U.A." placed second. S. Henderson of Lacombe won fourth and sixth in the same breed in the class of between 1,000 and 1,150 pounds, the animals being "Henderson's Ideal" and "Henderson's Choice." In the class of over 1,150 pounds Mr. Henderson was fifth with "Henderson's Monarch." In Aberdeen Angus class of 750 to 875 pounds the University was 3rd with the steer "Rufus U.A." Joseph Biglands of Lacombe district was sixth with his steer "Sam."

These awards were won in competition with cattle from all parts of Canada and United States. The University of Alberta sent three carloads to the exposition to advertise the quality of Alberta beef cattle.

Pail Feeding of Calves

(Experimental Farms News)

Perhaps there is no "easy" way to teach a young calf to drink but backing the calf in a corner and holding its head down with the nose at the surface of the milk is probably as good a method as any, states E. Van Nice, Assistant in Live Stock, Dominion Experimental Station, Scott, Sask. "Patience is a virtue."

The first milk from a cow after freshening contains from 15 to 18 per cent. protein and double the quantity of mineral or ash

found in normal milk. In addition it contains antibodies that protect the new-born animal against disease. Hence the calf should get this milk for two or three days whether direct from the cow or from the pail.

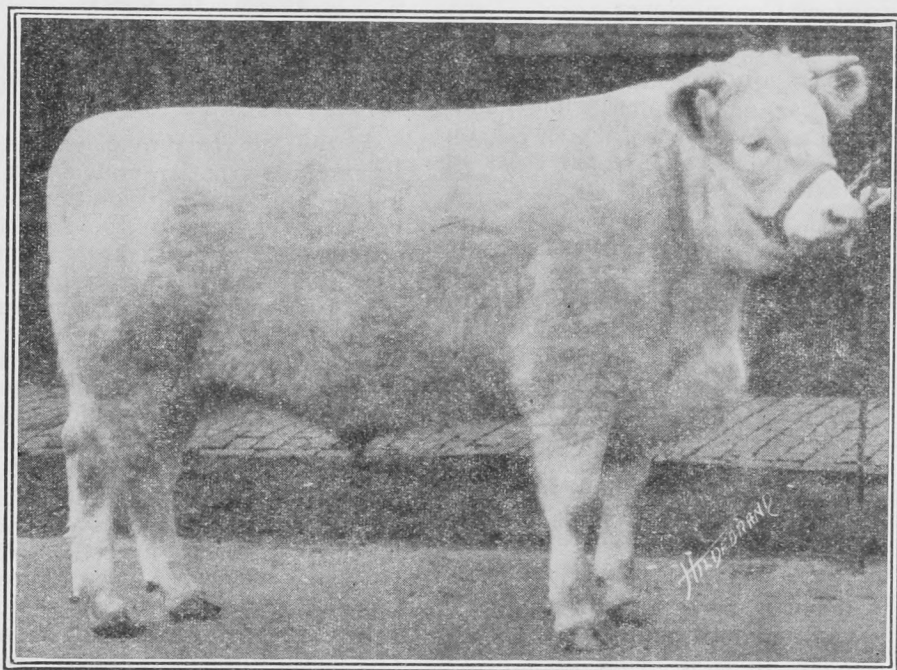
The pail feeding of whole milk will not develop as good a calf as if the same milk were taken from the cow by the calf at will. Skim-milk contains practically all the bone and muscle building material found in whole milk and with a simple home-made meal mixture for a fat substitute, skim-milk has produced as much growth as whole milk but the calves on skim-milk were not as fat. Flax seed jelly prepared by slowly heating one pound of flaxseed in three parts of water until a jelly forms, is a suitable fat substitute with a plentiful supply of skim-milk. One tablespoonful of the jelly may be added to the milk each feeding when the first skim-milk is given, preferably not before three weeks of age, and increased until at eight weeks of age about a half cup is used per day. If there is not an adequate supply of skim-milk available, some special calf meal is needed in place of the flax-seed mentioned.

Prepared calf meals may be purchased, many of which are good but the following home-made mixture has been tested at the Dominion Experimental station at Scott, Sask., against one of the leading commercial meals and found to be fully as satisfactory and much cheaper.

Sifted Oat Chop.....	2 lbs.
Fine Corn Meal.....	2 lbs.
Ground Flax Seed.....	1 lb.

In some home-made meals wheat middlings have been used in place of the oat chop but these have not been tested at Scott. One part of the home-made meal mixture may be used in eight or nine parts of warm skim-milk or water and fed in the pail as milk. The quantity of meal per feed should be steeped in boiling water twelve hours before using. The jelly thus formed may be stirred into the milk available and sufficient water added to make up the stated proportions or if necessary a well started calf may be grown without milk.

Whole oats and the best hay or pasture available should be provided at an early age. Changes in the feeding of calves at any age should be made very gradually and all containers kept clean.



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CITY COMMISSIONERS.

SIRE IMPROVEMENT POLICIES OF THE ALBERTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

By C. A. Lyndon, Livestock Commissioner

IN an intensified effort to eliminate all inferior sires from the Province of Alberta, the Provincial Department of Agriculture is developing policies aimed at facilitating the exchange of undesirable sires for better class animals.

The year 1939 will see a further development of the policy started in 1938 along this line, and indications are that stockmen of the Province will be even more keenly interested during this year, in such policies, than they were during 1938.

The first step in this direction, the Bull Exchange Policy, led to the placing, during the present fall and winter, of four hundred desirable pure-bred bull calves in herds in the Province. The exchange feature of this policy, took out of the Province at the same time for slaughter purposes, an equal number of undesirable herd sires. The policy can be considered as having been unusually successful in its initial stages. To foretell its ultimate outcome at this date, is of course impossible, because the final results to be secured, once the initial stages are completed, depends upon the co-operation received from the men who took advantage of it.

If these desirable calves are properly fed and housed for the balance of this winter, and the early spring months, and are brought to maturity in good condition, there can be no question about the success of the policy. If, on the other hand, the animals are not properly cared for, the policy will lose its effectiveness to a degree proportionate to the lack of this co-operation from those receiving the young sires.

A fieldman from the Department is now visiting farms where these young animals have been placed, with a view to rendering any assistance in their care and handling, which may be desired by the owners.

The Bull Exchange Policy is a concrete move to enable the small herd owners in the Province to secure pure-bred sires of the right type, at a price within their reach, and as such, sets a milestone in Canadian livestock improvement work. In spite of the odd difficulty which may arise in individual cases, and the wide ramifications of detail linked up with any policy

of this sort, stockmen of the Province are agreed, it would now appear, that the principle underlying the scheme, is one of immeasurable value to the stock industry in Alberta.

In the interim between the conclusion of the first part of the Bull Exchange Policy, and the development of a similar sort of policy for the fall of 1939, the Department is assisting in the placing of better sires in all parts of the Province. Scores of contacts are being established between breeders and herd owners looking for sires, and this service is being rapidly broadened to meet the increasing demand placed upon it.

Leaving the cattle field for a moment, perhaps a word should be said about improvement being made in sires being used in the Alberta swine industry. The Department is arranging policies which will facilitate the placing and use of improved boars in every portion of the Province.

The first step in this direction is the Swine Assistance Policy, which provides for the payment of transportation on pure-bred boars between breeder and shipping point of purchaser. This part of the policy, is now being taken advantage of by large numbers of breeders.

The Department is not losing sight of the fact that it is necessary to eliminate the undesirable boars from the Province at the same time the better types are distributed. The policy to be announced and to be operative during the coming summer will also take care of this feature, as was the case with pure-bred bulls.

In addition to these policies, the shipment of a carload of Advanced Registry boars from the hog-raising areas in Ontario to Alberta was arranged by the Department recently, and an exceptionally fine carload of young boars was in this manner brought into the Province, for the purpose of introducing new blood lines in our breeding stock. These boars have been brought to Edmonton and are already being distributed to breeders desiring them, at prices which make them rather attractive. No effort has been made to show a profit on this shipment of boars, the object being to bring

Continued on page 27

Horse Breeders Ask Sufficient Vaccine To Combat Encephalomyelitis

At the Alberta Provincial Horse Breeders Association annual meeting in December, a resolution was passed, addressed to the Alberta agricultural department, urging that the department continue its service in supplying vaccine, and that it co-operate with departments of other western provinces in an effort to have on hand larger supplies at reduced prices to horse breeders.

Mr. Sweeney assured the breeders that "the fullest information with regard to the possibility of Alberta manufacturing its own vaccine in the province" was being gathered in connection with the conference held at Winnipeg of the three western province departmental ministers and expert advisers to discuss western markets.

F. H. Reed, superintendent of the experimental station at Lacombe, and Dr. Percy Talbot, provincial veterinarian, spoke on encephalo-myelitis problems and plans to combat further outbreaks. Mr. Lyndon also spoke, assuring the meeting there was definitely a place in farming in Northern Alberta for horses, as against tractors.

In a resolution the association urged that the three prairie governments confer to reach an agreement on standards of inspection for stallions which would apply throughout the prairie provinces. The objective behind this was to prevent the shunting of a stallion rejected by the standards of one province, to another western province. In the election of officers J. Mitchell of Edmonton was elected president, and W. J. Burns was named vice-president. Mr. Reed of Lacombe was named honorary secretary, and C. A. Lyndon is honorary vice-president. P. W. Abbott, K.C. was named honorary director of the association. Elected to the executive were Mr. Rye, J. Nichols of Westlock, C. Ellett of South Edmonton. Newly appointed directors for 2-year term were J. Mitchell, Mr. Nicholls, L. O. Crockett of Mayerthorpe, Mr. Rye, A. Shandro of Shandro, G. H. Rowsell of Edmonton. Professor

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LOOKING BACKWARD

By C. A. Robinson



C. A. ROBINSON

"Back, oh, turn back again, time in your flight;
Make me a child again just for to-night."

There are a lot of us of the older generation who look back with pleasant memories of certain childhood days. Again there are a considerable number of unpleasant recollections.

I suppose most of the readers will wonder what I am trying to get at. There are a number of us who can recall perhaps twenty-five or thirty years ago when about the only method of replenishing the farm flock was through the medium of the old broody hen.

However, modern methods of sanitary, scientific incubation has worked wonders in simplifying the rearing of chicks. Today the poultryman or farmer can contact his hatcheryman and get any

number of chicks that he wants all of the same age. Yes, and go so far as to get all pullets or all cockerels.

The development of the hatchery industry of today is well within the memory of all of us. It is comparatively an infant industry in so far as our present day civilization is concerned. About 500 B.C. Chinese writers tell the story of hatching eggs by artificial incubation. The Chinese incubator at that time was a barrel-shaped incubator made of mud bricks and buried in a compost. The animal heat of the compost furnished the heat for hatching. In many parts of China today hatcheries are operated by almost the identical same means that they were five hundred years before Christ.

While the hatchery industry in this country, and methods of chick hatching, have made giant strides, it is interesting to compare our method of temperature control in the most modern up-to-date machines with the Chinese method of method of controlling temperature. There the operators tested eggs with their eyelids to see whether they were too hot or too cold. There incubation was an art. Today incubation is a science.

Egypt tells practically the same story. Two thousand years ago when the Pharaohs ruled, the hatching industry was a flourishing business. There were about a hundred and fifty hatcheries in the land of the Nile at that time, and their annual production was estimated at more than seventy-five million chicks. The Egyptian hatchery was a crude affair, also

requiring the care of an expert, a man who grew up in the industry. Here again incubation was an art, handed down from father to son, and it is interesting to know that in Egypt, as well as in China, practically the same method of

Continued on page 23



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Canada's Blue Book for Dairy Cows

Canadian milk cows have their own Blue Book, compiled by the Livestock Branch, Ottawa, known as the Canadian Record of Performance for Purebred Dairy Cattle. It sets out the regulations, standards and production records of cows qualifying for registration in it.

In dairyman's language, the R.O.P. standing of a cow, or bull, determines its rating as a profit-maker in the dairying industry. Only about 7,500 cows and 600 bulls in all Canada qualify for admission to this dairy cattle blue book. In the Dominion there are approximately 5,000,000 milk cows and 238,000 bulls. So the animals which qualify for R.O.P. rating are relatively few. Every beast so registered is pure bred and must be registered in the Canadian Herd Book for the breed to which it belongs.

Every owner is required to enter all his pure bred milkers if he enters any. Special privileges are granted to Boys' Heifer clubs with a view to encouraging farm lads to make the best possible records of production. No bull is eligible for entry in the Record of Performance register until he has sired four progeny qualifying for R.O.P. registration, each from a different dam. Dairy men have long held that heavy milking strains are largely transmitted through the male parent, and that is why special stress is laid in the cattle blue book on ability to transmit this characteristic.

Application for entry for the R.O.P. tests must be made 30 days or longer before the cow freshens. The owner is required to weigh, or cause to be weighed, the milk given at each milking and to keep posted in a conspicuous place in the stable or milk house a correct record of this on official forms. The owner reports monthly on regulation forms the records of his milkings, with the total yield of milk from each cow for the month.

An inspector is required to visit stables as often as possible during the year, at irregular intervals, unannounced. He is required to remain at least two full days, covering all milkings of that period, at each visit. He must weigh the milk of each cow and take samples

for the Babcock test. These tests are the basis for computing the record. The regulations also outline other precautions he must take.

R.O.P. registration requires a minimum production over 365 days, according to age of cow, as follows:

Ayrshire—7,000 to 10,000 pounds of milk, 280 to 400 pounds of butterfat.

Brown Swiss—Same as Ayrshire.

French Canadian—6,222 to 8,888 pounds of milk, 280 to 400 pounds of butterfat.

Guernsey—5,500 to 8,000 pounds of milk, 275 to 400 pounds of butterfat.

Holstein-Friesian — 9,000 to 12,000 pounds of milk, 306 to 408 pounds of butterfat.

Jersey—5,500 to 8,000 pounds of milk, 275 to 400 pounds of butterfat.

Red Poll—5,000 to 8,000 pounds of milk, 200 to 320 pounds of butterfat.

Shorthorn — 5,000 to 6,500 pounds of milk, 190 to 247 pounds of butterfat.

Economic Survey

FOR many years leading ranchers have expressed the wish that more information could be made available concerning their industry, particularly the economics aspects. It has been felt also that information based on the records of actual business, supplied by the ranchers themselves would supplement the valuable work done on the Range Experiment Station of the Department of Agriculture at Manyberries, Alberta.

The managers and outside workers at Manyberries have been aware that more knowledge of ranchers' experiences—financial aspects and management experiences—would enable them to make their work even more effective. Also, other developments of later years have focussed attention on the range problem, namely—the drought, the abandonment of farms that only a few years ago were established in areas where once the rancher held sway, and the necessity of deciding upon policies for such areas which, together

with many other problems, are being dealt with by the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration.

Out of all this has come the decision to undertake an Economic Survey of the Cattle Range Industry. The Marketing Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture, and the Experimental Farm Service, are co-operating in the undertaking. The actual supervision and conduct of the project, is the work of the staff of the Economics Division of the Marketing Service, and the Range Experiment Station at Manyberries.

In conducting the survey field enumerators with detailed forms will call on ranchers to obtain the information desired. Ranch records, accounts, and the fund of information that ranchers can supply on their own operations and on the industry in general, will form the basis of the study. Information given by ranchers will be treated as strictly confidential, and will be used only so no identities will be disclosed. While a completed report must await completion of the survey, it may be possible to release preliminary results from time to time after the first year's records have been secured.

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Edmonton Spring Show

Dates of April 10th to 15th have been announced for the annual Edmonton Spring Show, and single fare railway rates will be effective for this event from all stations in Alberta from April 9th to 15th, with return limit of April 17th.

Exhibits are confined to horses and cattle, and competitions for Junior Department Exhibitors are strongly featured, the children's calf-feeding competitions being amongst the most popular of all the contests at the annual Edmonton Spring Show. In these classes, as also in the open cattle classes, exhibits must have been cared for by the competitor since the first of January, and in the open cattle classes ownership by the exhibitor is also required for 100 days. The finished cattle classes are very popular with exhibitors and with the public, and can always be expected to show very keen competition. The high prize money, and the auction sale following the show, are also good incentives to competition.

The annual Bull Sale takes place on Thursday, April 13th, and attracts buyers from all over Northern Alberta. All bulls are T. B. tested by Federal Government officials before the sale, and a culling committee holds out any bulls of inferior type or quality. Bull sale entries must be received at the Edmonton office by March 13th. Entries for the show classes—horses and finished cattle and calves—do not have to be in until March 27th.

The Horse Show includes classes for registered Thoroughbreds, Standard Breds, and in the heavy breeds, Clydesdales, Percherons, and Belgians. There are non-registered classes for carriage horses, high steppers, ladies' drivers, saddle horses, polo ponies, and hunters and jumpers, in the Light Horse Section, and for four-horse teams, six-horse teams, pairs and singles in the Draught Horse Section.

The Junior Department classes include Beef Calves, Dairy Calves, Light Foal Competitions, Boys' Horsemanship contest, Judging Competitions, and Continuation Classes (open only to foals shown at the 1938 Show). There are also best boy and best girl rider classes, and a jumping class for junior exhibitors riding horses not to exceed 15 hands high.

Following the practice of previous years, the breeding classes will be judged during the mornings and afternoons, and the more spectacular "show" classes during the evenings. In fact, the evening horse show programmes are most interesting, and in addition to featuring the carriage, roadster, and saddle classes, also the hunters and jumpers, this year, Manager Abbott announces that a special entertainment feature for which arrangements have now practically been concluded with Brigadier Pearkes will be a magnificent Musical Ride, put on by thirty-six members of the cavalry from Military District No. 13, Calgary; this is the same type of ride as that put on by the R.C.M.P. at the New York Horse Shows, and to be presented this year at the New York World's Fair.

At the Live Stock Marketing Conference

Edmonton, February 16 and 17

The Manitoba live stock commissioner, J. R. Bell, told the delegates that the spread between prices paid to producers and prices paid by meat consumers was too great, and that the problem of marketing live stock should not be left in the hands of governments alone, but that producers should take an interest in the problem.

George K. Ross, president of the Short Grass Stock Growers Association, declared that results of what can happen to an industry (mentioning in particular the story of the beef cow in Alberta) when those who have no active investment in it are allowed to prey on it in the name of business, were utterly deplorable. The packers, he said, fine the shipper \$1 per head for any cattle the shipper wants to sell with horns on, despite the fact they pay less per pound for cattle with horns. The railways had built feeding yards, disregarding what the industry could stand, and when an ordinary charge for yardage did not yield enough to pay interest on the investment, they arranged with the government to charge shippers \$1.25 per bale for hay worth 40c, was another assertion he made.

The chairman of the live stock division of the Alberta Co-operative Council, W. C. McKenzie, addressed an afternoon gathering,

and said that Argentine filled to a large extent the British market for Canadian cattle, as Britain has invested millions of dollars in development there, and because Britishers are very keen buyers, buying at the lowest possible figure, irrespective of where it comes from. A logical market for Canadian cattle can be arranged in the United States, if favorable duty and quota regulations could be secured, he stated. The present quota arrangements are unsatisfactory, as under this quota, 16 nations may participate in exporting cattle to the United States. In the first quarter this year, Mexico filled the quota for import in that quarter, blocking Canadian cattle till the next quarter. The marketing question is of grave public concern, the speaker said. Since the disallowance of the Natural Products Marketing Act, the problem of marketing has become more pressing. Those who struggled for years with the problems brought to conferences to discuss, saw in the Act some hope. Under it, they believed they could once again build up the co-operative, producer-controlled live stock shipping associations, and secure the orderly movement of products to market.

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Alberta Percheron Club News

Ben Kletzel, of Denzil, Sask., has just purchased the two Montana bred mares, Fanny 19486, a five-year-old black, by Mont Laet 208094 out of Maud 195354, from R. S. Edwards of Gem, Alberta; and Sylva 19485, a black of the same age, by Mont Laet and out of Lingot Bess 173492, from Hardy E. Salter of Calgary, Alberta. These are a wonderful team of thick set, quality mares, and both are in foal to Major 16116, a son of Maplegrove Chadwick by old Lagos.

Dave Whiteside of Parkland, Alta., has sold his black two-year-old stallion **Belly River Laet 16669**, to Gregory Bros. of Irricana, Alta. He is sired by Willaet 14306 and is out of the good Johnnie Franklin mare Mandoline 13556. This colt has lots of middle, and is excellent in the underpinning.

J. Elliott, of Irricana, Alta., has just bought from John McNiel of Beiseker, Alta., the black mare Black Bettina 16145; she is by Jim Black 12602 and is out of Bettina 13670.

Greenway & Clark of Acme, Alta., have just sold a sucker stallion to Hughes & Sons of De Winton, Alta.; he is **Elton Ivanhoe**, sired by Stampede 13598 and out of the great brood mare Ebony Rose 16629.

Val Lutz of Morinville, Alta., has been out on a buying tour, he bought from E. G. Waller of Maple Creek, Sask., two black yearling stallions, one is **Reuben Commodore**, by Hurderoft Commodore 11988 and out of Eva 16799, the other is Abel, by the same sire and out of Lucille 15327. Then at Calgary he picked up the black yearling filly, Starlight Myrna Laet 19737 by Laget of Weno 14308 and

out of the great old Calypeo bred mare Starlight Blossom 14743, from Hardy E. Salter.

Ernest Walker of Olds, Alta., has just purchased the yearling filly Nell Laet from J. W. Nielson of Carmangay, Alta. This black is sired by Chief Laet and is out of **Minette 16657**. Hardy E. Salter bought her full brother, he is the black Prince Laet 16267, he has eleven inches of bone, weighs 1,800 lbs., girths 85 inches, and he is three years old next June.

The C.P.R. Farm at Strathmore, Alta., has just sold their good three year old stallion Strathmore Reubenet 16177, he is sired by the great Chief Laet 14452, belonging to the Dominion Farm at Lethbridge, and he is out of the good brood mare Reuben Betty 16478; this colt was first prize in the two-year-old class at both Vancouver and Victoria Exhibitions last Sept. His buyer is the Old Elm Hutterie Colony of Magrath, Alta.

The new American Percheron News is out, now printed on a very good grade of paper, which shows up the photographs of the horses much better than formerly. There are two pages devoted entirely to Canadian Percheron News, and the paper will be published four times each year. The subscription rate for Canadians is \$1.25 per year. It is certainly worth that much to those interested in Percherons.

Just a Little Froth

Mrs. Johnson had a new chauffeur who turned out to be a marvellous driver, but rather indifferent as to his appearance. He evidently was not fond of shaving.

"Brown," said Mrs. Jones to him one day, "how often do you think it necessary to shave?"

The chauffeur looked at his employer intently. "Well, madam," he said, "with a weak growth like yours, I should say that once every third day would be sufficient."

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NEW VARIETIES OF GRASSES

(Experimental Farms News)

During recent years a number of comparatively new varieties of grasses have become prominent as forage crops in the Prairie Provinces, states S. E. Clarke, Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask. These varieties are of particular value owing to their adaptation to certain soil and moisture conditions as found on the prairies. Some of these new grasses are as follows:

Crested Wheat Grass

This hardy perennial grass was introduced from Siberia to the United States about forty years ago. However, it is only recently that its real value as a forage plant in Western Canada has been demonstrated. At present, it is the best grass available for hay and pasture purposes under dry land conditions; as well as for the regrassing of abandoned fields and depleted native pastures. While "Fairway" is the best strain of crested wheat grass at present, new types are being developed which may prove superior under very dry conditions.

Parkland Brome

This variety of brome is more or less of a bunch-grass type. Root stocks are either absent or not as well developed as in common brome; therefore, it is not so likely to become root-bound, nor is it as difficult to eradicate. Bromes produce good yields in fairly moist soils. At the Manyberries Range Station, Parkland brome has outyielded the common variety on irrigated fields.

Reed Canary Grass

This is a lowland grass and a native of Western Canada. It makes palatable and nutritious fodder and is being used to quite an extent in the regrassing of sloughs and old lake bottoms. This grass is a hardy perennial and while it requires plenty of moisture to produce good yields, it does not kill out readily during dry periods.

Wild-Rye Grass (*Elymus junceus*)

This hardy perennial grass has been introduced from Europe. In tests conducted at the Manyberries and Swift Current Experimental Stations it has proven as drought resistant as crested wheat grass. This grass must be tested further, however, before it can be recommended for general use.

CURRENT LIVE STOCK NOTES AND EVENTS

The Alberta Percheron Club claims to be the largest provincial horse association in Canada, having 183 paid-up members at the close of 1938, as compared with 119 in 1937.

The 3-year-old stallion Tillicum Bill has been bought from J. Ollerenshaw of Ogden, by Alex Peterson, Namaka, to travel the Gleichen district this season. Hardy E. Salter, Secretary of Alberta Percheron Club, Calgary, has purchased the four-year-old mare Sylva, by Mont Laet, bred and raised by Cronk Brothers, Savoy, Montana.

In preparation for the Lacombe Horse Sale to be held March 14 and 15 additional stabling is being provided at the Central Alberta Sales Pavilion. More than 1,000 horses are expected to be sold during the sale.

These Alberta breeders had sows qualifying for advanced registration during the month of October: station-fed groups: George E. Nichols, Castor; home-fed groups: George E. Nichols, two sows; University of Alberta, two sows; Oliver Mental Hospital, and A. W. Pethybridge, Tees.

At the seventh annual meeting of Southern Alberta Jersey Cattle Club in Calgary, the officers elected were: Reid Clarke of Didsbury, president; J. W. Hughes, vice-president; Col. E. G. May of Elbow River, secretary-treasurer; N. S. Clarke of Olds, R. G. May of Elbow River, M. D. Carlyle of Hualta, H. H. Longway and W. B. Barkeley of Springbank, directors.

Live stock feeding on an extensive scale has been made possible at Picture Butte since the sugar-beet factory opened there over two years ago, making available large supplies of beet pulp. Nearly 4,000 cattle and 2,000 lambs were in feed lots there this winter. This year the Picture Butte factory processed more beets than the Raymond factory established some years ago.

Jos. Robb of Lonebutte district has bought 18 head of pure bred

Herefords to commence what is thought to be the first breeding establishment of this kind in the Hanna district. Fred Duke was the seller.

In the 365-day division of the Ayrshire R.O.P., the four year old Pioneer Rosebud, owned by A. L. Young of Brooks, was qualified in December with a milk record of 10,083 lbs., 485 lbs. fat, average 4.81 per cent. on twice-daily milking. In the 305-day division, Glenwillow Betty of the Anchor-down Ranch, Midnapore, was qualified in the honor roll with 11,098 lbs. milk, 487 lbs. fat, the average test being 4.39 per cent. fat.

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LIVE STOCK MARKETING IN EDMONTON LAST YEAR

According to statistics prepared by Dominion Agricultural officials, released on February 2nd, the value of live stock marketed at Edmonton Stock Yards and city packing plants amounted to \$14,754,702. Hogs accounted for \$9,746,679 of this, the number of animals being 522,539.

A total of 102,505 cattle were brought in, of which 36,649 went to packing plants, and 65,856 went to stock yards. The value represented by this number was \$3,519,182. Calves valued at \$1,233,526 were marketed in the city, the total number being 83,497. Sheep, totalling 54,926 in number, valued at \$255,314 were sent to Edmonton.

In connection with the swine marketings, 479,558 went to packing plants, while 42,981 were marketed through the stock yards. The first figure represented \$8,944,976, and the second \$801,701. In addition to the number marketed, 3,603 swine were billed through to distant points, but unloaded at Edmonton stock yards for feed and water before going further. Of the swine sold 60.4 per cent. were sold on a "live grade" basis, the best sold under the "rail grade" basis.

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Regulating Board Asked By Cattle Breeders' Association

The Alberta Provincial Cattle Breeders' Association at the annual meeting endorsed a resolution passed recently by the National Dairy Council. The resolution asks the Dominion Government to pass legislation which would permit Canadian dairy producers to set up a board for regulating the export of dairy products.

The regulating board would be formed so that the producer's price may be maintained more evenly, and so that the consumer's price may not be jeopardized by extreme seasonal fluctuations. The dairy industry would assume the cost of financing the operation of such a board by means of some form of levy on itself permitted and approved by the Federal Government.

Another resolution urged that provincial governments without legislation similar to the National Producers' Marketing Act of B.C. should pass such legislation in order to secure as great a uniformity of legislation as possible in the province, and so that producers might co-ordinate better their efforts in the Dominion field. It was also urged that a conference of representatives of all dairy producers and farm organizations be held early in 1939 to discuss provincial marketing legislation and to try to formulate a basis for united action. The conference was to be called by the minister of agriculture.

D. H. McCallum, provincial dairy commissioner, told the meeting that a good home market is an advantage in marketing any product, and that it is particularly true of perishable dairy products. In addition he stated that ability to produce a quality article and a thorough understanding of market requirements were necessary to obtain the best prices. J. Russell Love of Edmonton urged preference for Canadian farmers on

the Canadian domestic market, with particular reference to dairy produce, in a report on recent proceedings of the National Dairy Council and the problems raised there. Dr. H. R. Thornton of the University spoke on "Odor and Flavor Defects of Milk and Cream." Mr. Lyndon, provincial live stock supervisor, outlined the new provincial bull policy.

J. R. Sweeney was named honorary president of the association, and Joseph Johnston, University Farm Manager, was made honorary vice-president. S. C. Pritchard of Camrose, Roy Ballborn of Wetaskiwin and Mr. Hosford were elected to the executive. New directors chosen were Mr. Bissell, Mr. Baldhori, Roy Marler of South Edmonton, Mr. Pritchard, Percy Williams of Bruderheim, and Prof. J. P. Sackville, Animal Husbandry Department, University of Alberta. Directors standing over were Mr. Hosford, Angus McDonnell, Mr. Love, Laurence M. Rye, Charles Ellett and W. G. Morris. Miss E. L. Holmes was re-appointed secretary-treasurer.

Mr. Bissell was made associate director to the exhibition association of Edmonton, and representative to the Alberta Live Stock Board. Mr. Pritchard was appointed to the bull sale committee of the exhibition association.

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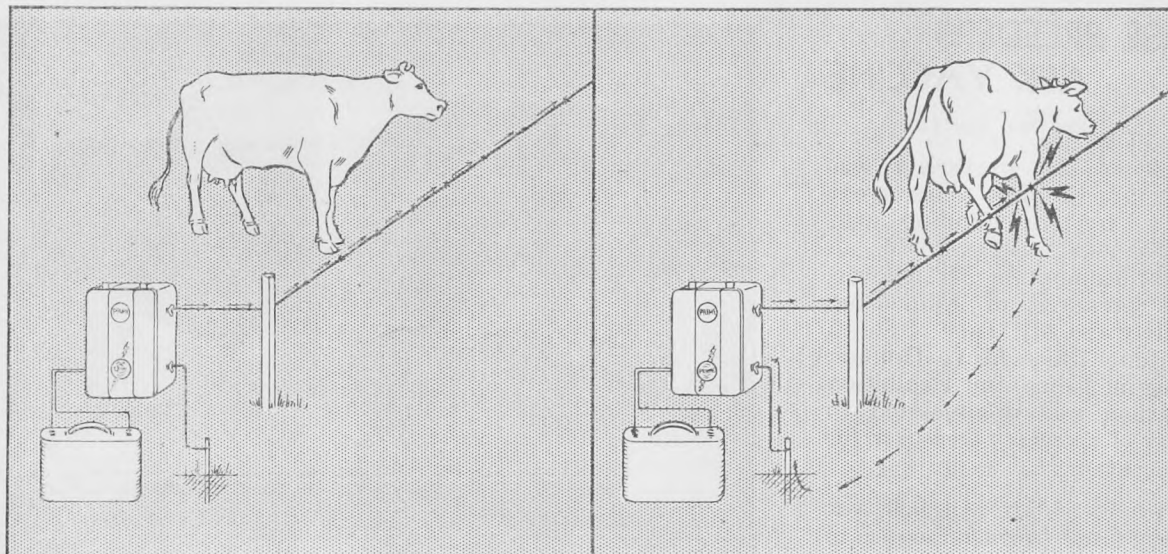
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The Electric Fences

(Experimental Farms News)

The introduction of the electric fence into Canada has been received with much interest and it is gradually becoming more widely adopted for fencing pastures, states H. J. Kemp, Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask. This type of fence has many advantages, but at the same time caution is necessary in establishing the equipment. Research and further investigation will, no doubt, improve the safety features, its efficiency and general range of usefulness.

The advantages of an electric fence are briefly enumerated as follows:

1. Reduces the cost of erecting temporary fences.
2. Reduces expenditures for wire, posts and gates.
3. Reduces injury to live stock.
4. Especially adapted to winding coulees or temporary pasture areas otherwise impractical to fence.

5. Enables the use of untillable land in fields that otherwise might be wasted.

Three types of electric fence controls are in use. Two employ direct current of either six volts or 32 volts. The third uses alternating current of 110 volts. Regulations do not always permit connecting the alternating current electric fence controls to commercial or rural light and power lines. The six volt direct current battery type is considered the safest devices to use.

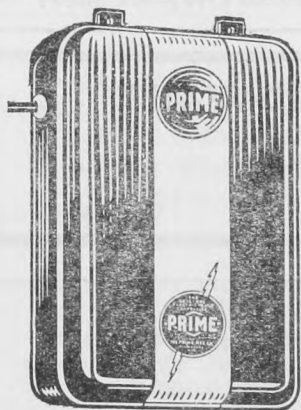
Direct electric current of six volts may be supplied to the battery operated types by either four dry cells, a hot shot battery, or a wet storage battery. The fence control equipment increases the pressure of the current from six volts to a range of from 350 to 30,000 volts. This high voltage is delivered to the fence wire at a very low volume of from 10 to 15 milliamperes at regular intervals

of 50 to 60 times per minute. The intermittent application of electric current conserves the battery current. This intermittent current, together with the very low amperage, are excellent provisions for safety. High voltages applied at amperages higher than 15 to 20 milliamperes are regarded as dangerous to both humans and animals and competent advice is recommended where any doubt exists.

Some makes of electric fence controls include means to increase or decrease the voltages to suit wet or dry soil conditions, a meter for testing the battery, and means to indicate short circuit in the fence line, a lightning arrester and a condenser to reduce radio interference.

As a rule, one or two wires are used for the electric fence to carry the electric current. One wire is sufficient for horses and cattle. Two wires are considered preferable for pigs and sheep. Barbed wire is more suitable than smooth wire although the latter can be

Continued on page 26



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HORSE BREEDERS ASK VACCINE

Continued from page 14

Sackville of the University was named director for a one-year term. Directors standing over from previous term were W. J. Burns of Edmonton, Mr. Glover, G. H. Cresswell of Edmonton, Mr. Ellett and Mr. Tone of South Edmonton. Miss E. L. Holmes, secretary of Edmonton Exhibition Association, was re-appointed to the post of secretary-treasurer for the association.

The president, Mr. Mitchell, was made the horse breeders' associate director on the board of the exhibition association. Mr. Rye was made representative to the live stock board and to the Western Canada Livestock Union.

"I hear your son is to be a dentist," remarked Jones. "I always thought he was going to be an ear specialist."

"Yes, he was," replied Smith; but I reminded him that a man has thirty-two teeth and only two ears."

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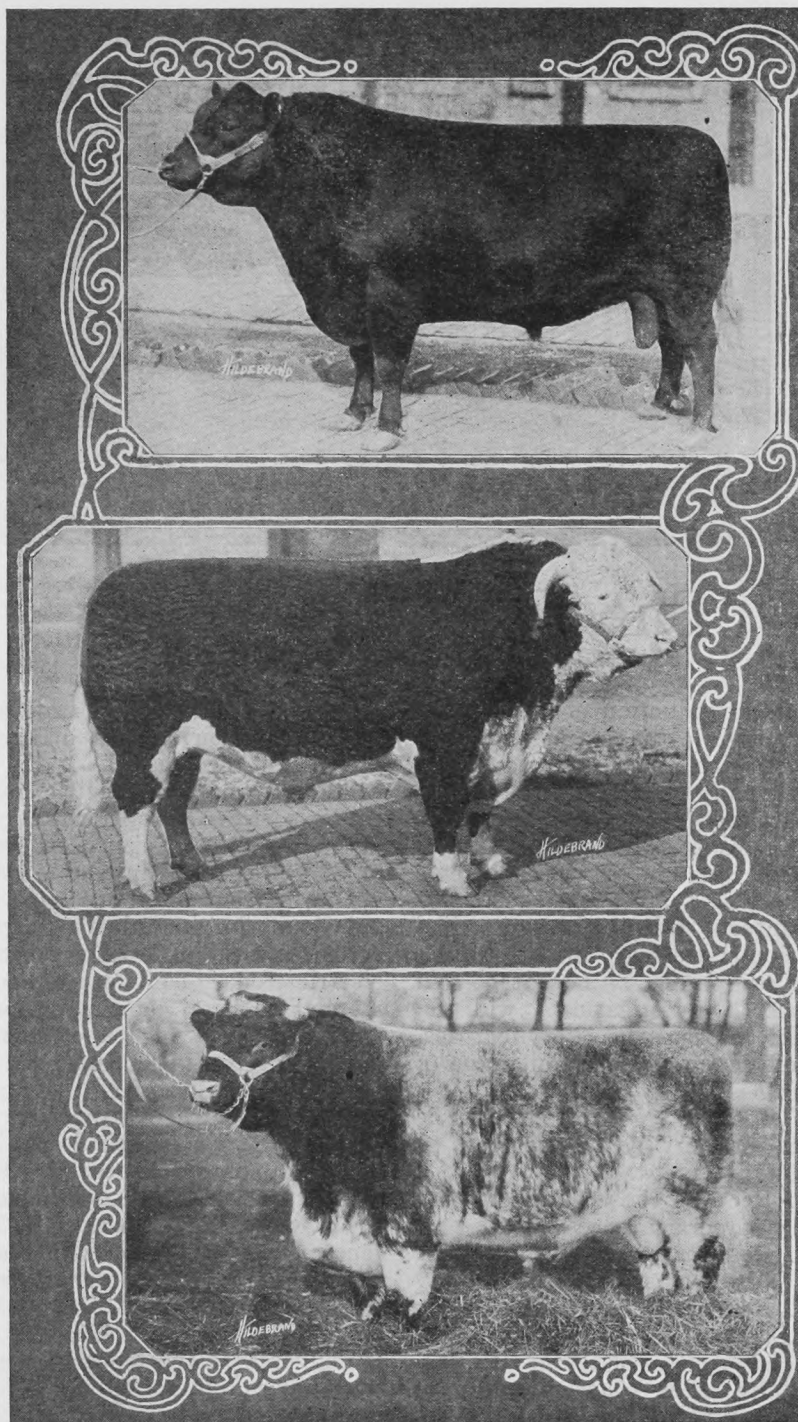
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Looking Backward

Continued from page 15

hatching chicks is used today as was used two thousand years ago.

In the rearing and caring for chicks today we have the benefits that were not known twenty-five or thirty years ago in the form of electricity, oil, and coal. Brooder houses are scientifically constructed to give proper ventilation, and the heat supplied by different methods where electricity, oil or coal is used gives an assurance of the uniformity that permits the poultryman or farmer today to rear his chicks with a minimum of mortality.

Again, we have scientifically balanced feeding rations containing all the necessary protein, fats and fibre to encourage the growth of the chick in the normal natural way. Therefore when the farmer or poultryman wants a given number of chicks his order is placed with a reliable hatchery; he calls the time he is told the chicks will be ready for him, or when he wants them, picks up the required amount of chick starter or feed, goes home, places the chicks in the brooder, adjusts the temperature to the proper degree, and with the minimum of attention, the manner of sanitation, and the necessary cleanliness, keeping the water founts filled with clean fresh water, the feed troughs replenished as often as necessary, and sees, if it is a coal burning brooder stove that occasionally the grates are shaken down and fresh coal added to it; or if it is oil that the oil tank is filled and thermostat adjusted. Of course in electricity this is more or less automatically controlled; the temperature is set by a thermostat and the current turned on and

off as the temperature rises and falls. So all in all the poultryman or farmer today, as far as the replenishment of his flock is concerned, has little if anything to worry about.

The various breeds that formerly occupied the barn yard today are practically reduced down to about three. The White Leghorn is considered to be the laying machine, and if it is eggs the poultryman or farmer wants he is well advised to consider this breed. If it is a dual purpose poultry he wants there are two other standard breeds—Rhode Island Reds and Barred Plymouth Rocks. The Rhode Island Red is considered to be perhaps next to the Leghorn in winter laying. It is an excellent mature table poultry, many preferring this breed owing to the color of the flesh. The Barred Rock is a most excellent layer, and perhaps the table fowl par excellence. They mature rapidly and take on fat under perhaps the most unfavourable conditions imaginable. These three breeds have become more or less universally standard until today I question if there is a district in any part of Canada or the United States that all of these three breeds could not be found in.

The poultryman and farmer should study his marketing conditions, and if his market calls for the production of eggs primarily, then of course the description outlined above will assist him in coming to a decision as to which breed he prefers. However, where many farmers produce the major portion of their own home-grown feeds, perhaps the dual purpose bird in either Barred Rocks or Rhode Island Reds is much to be preferred. After the bird's life of usefulness has been served as a layer of eggs they are dressed and placed on the market; and the monetary value enhances the desirability of either of these two breeds as a utility fowl.

So in placing your order for

your chick requirement keep this in mind:

First, that the present possibilities of the poultry industry in Western Canada shows a very encouraging outlook.

Second, that early hatched pullets come into laying at a time when prices are high and the demand for fresh eggs is good.

Third, that poultry raising, if properly conducted, is a dependable source of ready cash, and that poultry raisers have made and will make more actual cash out of poultry than anything else on the farm per dollar invested.

Billy was an awful liar and his his mother in despair about him.

"Do you know what happens to liars when they die, Billy?" she asked.

"Yes, mummy," replied Billy. "They lie still."

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STATEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION OF FODDER CROPS AND DAIRY PRODUCTS OF ALBERTA FOR 1938 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1937

1937 (Final Figures)

1938 (Preliminary Figures)

FODDER CROPS

	Acreage	Tons	Tons	Price	Value	Acreage	Tons	Tons	Price	Value
Grain Hay.....	1,100,000	1.50	1,650,000	\$ 6.00	\$9,900,000	900,000	1.75	1,575,000	4.00	\$ 6,300,000
Hay and Clover	356,500	1.23	438,000	8.50	3,723,000	365,600	1.49	545,000	6.00	3,270,000
Alfalfa.....	83,000	1.88	156,000	10.50	1,638,000	85,600	2.30	197,000	7.00	1,379,000
Fodder Corn	2,700	5.55	15,000	6.25	94,000	3,100	5.00	16,000	6.00	96,000
Total.....	1,542,200		2,259,000		\$15,355,000	1,354,300		2,333,000		\$11,045,000

DAIRY PRODUCTS

1937 (Final Figures)

1938 (Preliminary Figures)

	Production Lbs.	Price	Value	Production Lbs.	Price	Value
Creamery Butter.....	26,323,562	24.5c	\$6,449,273	31,192,368	23.2c	\$7,236,629
Home Dairy Butter	15,600,000	19.5c	3,042,000	15,600,000	18.2c	2,839,200
Factory Cheese.....	1,838,589	14.6c	268,434	2,452,904	14.5c	355,671
Home Dairy Cheese.....	225,000	13.0c	29,250	250,000	12.0c	30,000
Ice Cream.....(Gals.)	524,048	118.6c	621,564	(Gals.) 535,713	113.2c	606,427
Milk and Cream consumed or otherwise utilized, or fed to animals			6,727,379			6,803,394
Total Value.....			\$17,137,900			\$17,871,321

There were 97 creameries and 15 cheese factories in the year 1938, as compared with 96 creameries and 14 cheese factories in the year 1937.

MISCELLANEOUS

	Production Lbs.	Price	Value	Production Lbs.	Price	Value
Honey.....	2,160,000	7.5c	\$ 162,000	2,000,000	7.0c	\$ 140,000
Wool.....	3,400,000	15.0c	510,000	3,829,000	11.2c	428,848
Poultry Products.....			6,000,000			7,340,000
Animals slaughtered and sold			31,977,788			27,389,920
Game and Furs.....			2,161,507			1,156,013
Total Value.....			\$40,811,295			\$36,454,781

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IN SELF DEFENCE

A boy was punished in school for misbehavior, and his mother went to see about it. When she asked why her son had been thrashed, he said, "Mrs. Jones, we punished your son because he was wilful and unruly in the schoolroom."

"I won't have it," stormed the angry parent. "He is a delicate child and not used to harsh treatment. At home we never hit him, except in self-defence."

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Warble Flies

Continued from page 9

the grub is the easiest in which to control it. Hand extraction, if systematically undertaken, gives very good results. In the case of soft skinned cattle such as Jerseys and Guernseys, squeezing out grubs by pressure of fingers around the cysts is not difficult, but with tough-skinned animals such as Holsteins, this is an extremely laborious undertaking. The use of special forceps for this purpose is of great assistance. The herd should be gone over when grubs first appear, January in most districts, and the process repeated five or six times at intervals of not more than 30 days. If a grub breaks, the cyst should be immediately washed out with dilute disinfectant to prevent anaphylactic shock. It is wrong to think grubs can be removed only when they are fully developed or "ripe."

The difficulties experienced in hand extraction have led to many experiments everywhere to find material that would kill the grubs in the back without injuring the host animal. As a result a number of washes, ointments and powders have been discovered which are satisfactory. Their multiplicity however, is apt to be confusing, so it is advisable to use the following as a criterion—the substance used should have good killing properties and should destroy at least 80% of grubs present, should be harmless to host animal, and be odorless for dairy cattle so there will be no danger of tainted milk; should be in a form that allows for cheap and easy application and be inexpensive itself, it should be obtainable ready for use or at least involve no complicated or slow process of preparation. Its keeping qualities when mixed are also of some importance.

The most promising materials to suit these requirements have as their base an insecticide known as derris, tobacco and pyrethrum powder. Derris as a wash has proved very effective in large scale experiments in Great Britain. Four applications have been found to be sufficient under conditions there, and that number is considered sufficient in the prairie provinces. Taking January 7th as general date of first appearance of grubs the first dressing should be made about February 11th, the

second and third, after 28 day intervals, about March 11th and April 8th, and the fourth, after 35 day interval about May 13th. If an additional one is considered necessary, make it about June 17th. In colder regions where grubs may appear later, omit the first dressing.

Preparation and application are simple, the quantities of materials being as follows: Standardized derris powder 1 pound, soft soap $\frac{1}{4}$ pound, water 1 gallon. The soft soap is boiled in a quart of water and when cooled a little is poured into the derris powder in a bucket and mixed into a paste. Cold water is added slowly while stirring to make up to one gallon, and the mixture is then ready for use. It should be liberally applied to the backs of the animals with a soft cloth or a worn stable brush, care being taken to cover completely the area affected by the grubs. The kill is usually 100%. The material must be agitated frequently during use to ensure good mixture. To assist keeping qualities place mixture in a well-stoppered container. A wash similarly applied, but made with nicotine sulphate 2 ounces, fresh hydrated lime 1 pound, and water 1 gallon, is very effective and gives over 80% kills. Water should be poured slowly on to the lime while stirring to prevent lumps, and the tobacco extract added last. The liquid should be used only when freshly mixed. When weather is very wet, finely powdered derris or a tobacco-lime powder may be substituted for washes in earlier dressings. The commercial firms dealing in nicotine sulphate supply pamphlets describing in detail the methods of mixing the dust, and the construction of simple home mixers for this purpose. A 2% dust with finely powdered lime as a base is very satisfactory, but Tripoli earth has some advantages as a base if it can be obtained. Only 3 ounces of the powder should be dusted over back of each animal since there is a little danger of slight burning if a heavier application is made. Dusts should be applied on the same dates as mentioned under washes.

While reduction of warble flies still offers some difficulties in the case of range animals, the above control measures in general farming and dairy districts would greatly reduce or exterminate the pest, if generally undertaken on a com-

SIZE OF HERD; LABOR INCOME

Continued from page 10

In a farm management study carried on in New York State, by the State Department of Agriculture, during the same crop year, similar results were obtained. In the New York Study, farms having more than 30 cows had an average labor income more than four times that on farms with less than 20 cows. It was also found that, in the farms of this study, an average increase of 10 cows in size of herd was accompanied by an increase of \$418 in the labor income.

Both the Ontario and the New York studies bring out, very decidedly, the positive relationship between the size of herd and labor income. In applying this principle to the average farm, it should be noted that there are certain obvious physical and economic limitations to its application. In the main, however, it would appear that the more efficient use of capital and labor which the large herd permits, makes increased returns possible for the farm operator.

munity basis. Canadian farming conditions are less simple than in Denmark, but in the more important dairy sections there is no reason to believe that warble flies could not be brought under control by suitable legislation and supervision by competent trained veterinarians.

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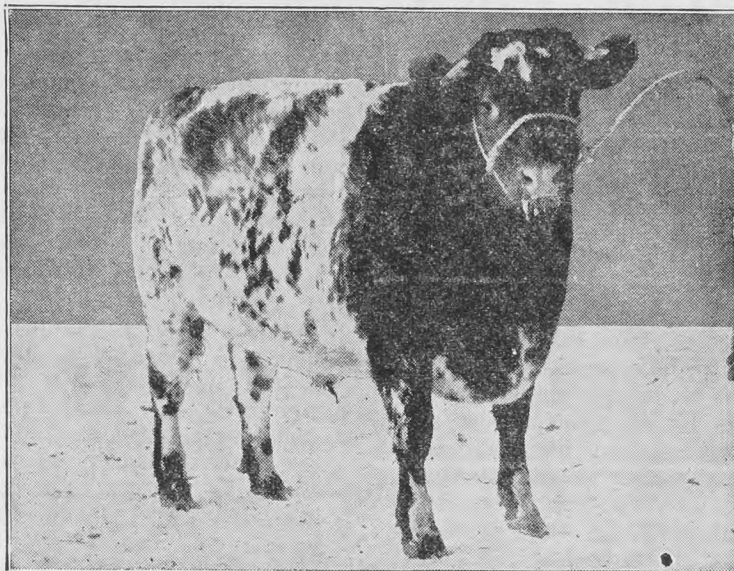
The Livestock Situation

Continued from page 7

Prices of horses declined early in 1938, though not to same extent as prices of other farm products. Exports of horses were about half in 1938 as compared with previous year. Supplies of good work horses are still below normal and this, coupled with farm cash income increase and improved foreign demand should result in rising prices.

On account of abundant supplies of home grown feed, despite fewer cows on farms than in 1938, the first quarter of 1939 should show a greater production of milk than the corresponding 1938 level. Low butterfat prices during this period may have an adverse effect on dairy production later in the year. The domestic demand for dairy products should be better than in 1938, but competition from other countries is expected to retard any marked improvement in the export trade.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STEER WINNER



—From Edmonton Journal.

Unusual distinction came to Alberta beef when the Shorthorn steer "Spotlight," bred and raised on the University of Alberta farm, captured the reserve grand championship in competition with champion beef of the Golden Gate Exposition at San Francisco this week. The animal was sired by Balmuchy Hope, which the university purchased from Claude Gallinger's famed herd at his Tofield farm, and when shown at 16 months weighed 1,150. Winning first in a large class at the world's fair it became champion Shorthorn beef animal before qualifying to meet United States champions of the Aberdeen Angus and Hereford breeds when the Angus, which so frequently wins, was nosed out of honors.



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CAPITAL TURNOVER SLOW ON FARMS

Continued from page 11

large business volume, two farms of one milk market are compared. One farm returned the highest and the other lowest net income for the group. The former has an investment of over \$18,000 but, in 2 to 3 years, receipts would equal capital. The latter is capitalized at just over \$9,000, but 7 to 9 years would be required for receipts to equal investment.

The best use of capital may be secured on a farm by building up enterprises to capacity and thus use capital fully. In a study of the farm business the comparative slow rate of business turnover should be kept in mind and efforts directed toward increasing the annual business turnover.

THE ELECTRIC FENCES

Continued from page 21

used where barbed wire is especially objectionable. The wire can be supported by porcelain insulators on 2" by 2" stakes set in the ground 30 to 40 feet apart.

Animals as a rule need a little training to keep them away from the charged fence. Observations at the Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current show that they learn surprisingly quickly and keep away from the fence for long periods even when such a fence is not charged. A 13-plate wet battery was used and the electric fence was operated throughout the summer months for pasturing cattle. The cattle were well controlled, no harm was done to either cattle or the attendant and the battery was still charged at the end of the season.

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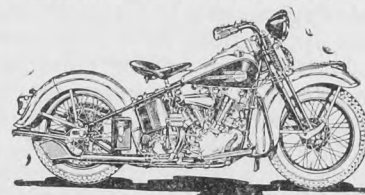
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Breeders' Directory

Listing in this directory in future issues may be inserted at a cost of \$1.50 per issue or \$5 for 4 issues. Listing must not exceed 20 words in length.

TO OUR READERS

This, the second number of The Alberta Stockman's Guide, has been carefully prepared with one main guiding principle always in mind—that of giving you an instructive, beneficial and interesting publication. We intend to go right to the heart of all problems vitally concerning your welfare and progress in the field of livestock raising, and to present solutions and information gathered from authentic, well-informed, and authoritative sources.

As time goes on, we intend to deal fully with the different aspects of successful live-stock raising, each in its proper seasonal section. We realize fully that spring, summer, fall and winter, each in its turn, present you with their own particular forms of preparation and work, and the results of one season to you depends upon the preparation and work done in the former season.

You can encourage and incite us to more thorough and painstaking work by showing your interest in **your** magazine. The easiest and most helpful way is to become a subscriber at once, and we depend upon your support in this manner, to assist us in carrying on the work to which we have set our shoulders.

Your suggestions and criticisms are naturally, most welcome at any time, and you may rest assured that some of them will be most helpful to us, and future readers of this magazine. In addition, items of interest, information, and experiences will be welcome contributions to the pages of The Alberta Stockman's Guide. In other words, this page is your own special page, and we expect you to take advantage of it to express your opinions, ideas, and suggestions.

SIRE IMPROVEMENT

Continued from page 14

them in and distribute them at as near cost as possible.

This carload of young boars, coupled with the boars to be available from Alberta breeders this spring will, it is hoped, meet the needs of improvement work in the swine industry in the Province, for the current year.

In the matter of the horse industry, the Department is proceeding with its work of assisting stallion clubs in locating and purchasing desirable, sound horses for use in widely scattered areas in the Province. Early indications are that this service will meet with a larger response even, than during 1938, and considerable effort is being put forth at the moment towards meeting the requests for assistance in organizing these clubs, and in securing the right type of stallions at prices which are satisfactory to the groups purchasing them.

Further information on any of these policies can be secured from the **Livestock Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture, Edmonton, Alberta.**

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